Equal Rights

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PERIODICAL

Zorah Khanoum Heidary

The first woman member of the Persian Government and a member of the Persian Commission to the Sesqui-Centennial. Madame Heidary spoke recently at a tea given in her honor by Mary Winsor of Haverford, Pennsylvania, one of the associate editors of Equal Rights.

Feminist Notes

Women and the British Imperial Conference

THE British Commonwealth League, consisting of women of the various dominions of Great Britain, has adopted resolutions calling upon the Imperial Conference of the British Empire to consider the best methods of granting the franchise to women in England on the same terms as men, of enfranchising women in South Africa, and of granting equality as between men and women in nationality rights, thus enabling women to keep their nationality regardless of marriage.

Another Gain

A. M. LONGHURST is the first woman in England to be appointed to an important post in an English museum. Miss Longhurst has been made assistant curator in the Department of Architecture and Sculpture at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Women have been appointed to such positions in Holland, America, and Italy.

Women at League Assembly

SIX women are serving their respective countries as *substitute* delegates at the present session of the League of Nations assembly at Geneva.

Labor-Saving Devices for the Home

HOUSEHOLD devices that do not require that somebody stay at home all day to start and stop them are the greatest needs of the present in the way of electrical labor-saving devices, Dr. Louise Stanley, chief of the Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture, told electrical manufacturers at their recent convention. Such devices would free both husband and wife for separate economic independence.

Women in Small Town Industries

WOMEN in Washington, New Jersey, are store managers, taxi drivers (there is only one taxi in the town), telegraph operators, and icemen.

It is the women of the Kneer family who are in the ice business. Four ice trucks owned by the family are run by four sisters, and if one of the four cannot report for duty there is the mother in reserve who can drive a car and carry ice as well as her daughters. The girls carry from eight to ten tons of ice daily, although the business is owned by their father.

The situation came about as the result of the war. When the men were taken away it looked as if the ice business would collapse, but the girls plunged into the work. The youngest of them is Lillian, 17 years old.

Irish Women and Nationality Rights

THE Irish Free State delegates to the Imperial Conference of the British Empire have received emphatic representations from the National Council of Women of Ireland in favor of the right of women to retain their nationality after marriage with a foreigner. The memorandum on the subject which has been forwarded to each individual delegate sets forth the resolutions on the subject passed by the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and recalls the fact that the parliaments of Great Britain and Australia have already expressed themselves by resolution in favor of the change. They quote a number of specific cases of individual hardship caused to women by loss of nationality on marriage, and express the hope that the Government of Ireland will not be numbered among the reactionaries.

Woman Steel Executive

THE only woman exhibitor at the recent Chicago exposition of the American Society for Steel Treating was Gene Miller Lindeblad, secretary, treasurer and member of the board of directors of the Kloster Steel Corporation of Chicago.

Still under middle age, Mrs. Lindeblad is one of the few women steel executives of the world, and is an expert in the uses, tests, metallurgy and salesmanship of alloy and tool steels and charcoal iron and steel. Mrs. Lindeblad started in the business before marriage as "a two-fisted steel saleswoman, who made friends wherever she booked business," accoring to *Iron Trade Review*. All the time she was selling steel, and working in the export and import steel business, she was studying metallurgy. One year after becoming secretary to the manager of a Chicago steel company, she became district sales manager, and served in that capacity twelve years.

In spare time she studies metallurgy as a hobby and her library shelves contain only technical books, business and technical periodicals and her Bible.

She hopes to become a member of the Chicago Chapter of the American Society for Steel Treating so that by the next convention she can register as a full-fledged delegate.

Woman Teaches Dentistry

DR. CARRIE K. BRYANT, recently appointed assistant professor of microbiology in the School of Dentistry of the University of Pennsylvania, is the first woman ever to be appointed to the faculty of the School of Dentistry.

Australian Women and the Imperial Conference

ON the eve of his departure for the Imperial Conference of the British Empire, the prime minister of Australia received a letter from the Australian Federation of Societies for Equal Citizenship urging that women be given equal representation with men in the League of Nations delegations, that the principle of equality between men and women be preserved in any action by the conference, and that women be appointed equally with men on important committees and commissions dealing with Commonwealth policy.

The Duties of Fatherhood

WHETHER or not the solemn educators and reformers who constantly harp on "duties of motherhood" will ever recognize that parenthood is a partnership job, undergraduate men at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, have discovered it. An undergraduate committee on curriculum has recommended the establishment of a course in "How to Live," which would include instruction in sex relations and the duties of fatherhood.

Equality in One Field

THE London Education Authority has recognized the principle of equal pay by raising the salary of a woman assistant inspector to that paid to the men of similar rank. The salaries of men and women inspectors of schools in the service of the English Board of Education are also equal.

Pioneer Woman Lawyer og Europe Dies

JEANNE CHAUVIN, the first woman in Europe to be admitted to the legal profession, died recently at Provins at the age of 64. Twenty-five years ago she was called to the Paris bar, and only last year she was awarded the cross of the Legion of Honor. Mlle. Chauvin forced a change in the law in 1900 to enable her to practice law. There are now 200 women practicing law in Paris alone.

Woman Quarry Manager

ANNE GREAVES is as EQUAL RIGHTS has already reported Britain's only woman quarry manager. "Of course I have a foreman and plenty of men workers to assist me, but I go into the quarries myself and inspect the seams and direct the methods to be used in getting out the sand and gravel," Mrs. Greaves said. "Stone has become so expensive that I have developed a plant which makes artificial stone and is doing a good business. I find quarrying is a very fascinating occupation."

The Actual Feminism

By Zorah Khanoum Heidary

A FEW years back, ten or fifteen years at the most, a patriotic and remarkably intelligent woman, belonging to a prominent and religious family of Ispahan, Madame Dolatabadi by name, decided to devote her life to woman's freedom.

Understanding quite correctly the importance of the problem and placing it on practical and reasonable grounds, she decided that the first step was to improve the education amongst women.

She resolutely attacked the study of the problem.

The establishment of a national school is a comparatively recent event. Some thirty years ago boys were educated in parochial schools, which, together with the baths, form an addition to the mosques. The children shut up in damp and dark rooms read and repeated unceasingly the Koran, the more gifted ones learning to write. Education was essentially religious. Neither history, general geography nor arithmetic were taught.

In 1896 it was decided to organize a high commission for public instruction entrusted with the formation of national schools for boys.

A few members of this commission timidly expressed the desire to see also girls' schools formed. But the clergy resenting the State's influence in the matter immediately organized a systematic opposition to this plan. Nevertheless, the plans for the organizations of schools for boys were finally successfully carried out and the women were eager to have their daughters educated also.

Unnoticed, they formed a class for a few girls and began to educate them, but the venture had to be abandoned. A year later a private school, which had received a vague official authorization, was started. The religious regulations being strictly observed, the management was as satisfactory as possible. Several prominent families, including those of the clergy, took an active interest in it. Encouraged by this success, in the year 1900, additional private schools were opened. All difficulties were overcome by unfailing perseverance, seldom met in Persia, and gradually the clergymen decided to send their daughters to schools.

The cause was won, the principle was acknowledged; within ten years about sixty schools were functioning, and so successfully that in 1914 the Ministry of Public Instruction extended its control on the education of girls, insuring the supervision after having defined the curriculum of studies.

In 1916 they decided to make an effort to propagate primary instruction, the necessary funds being obtained by raising the taxes in the provinces by 20 per cent. In the same year thirty new boys' schools and ten girls' schools were opened. A forceful propaganda for the development of the number of schools was led in the Feminist newspaper, *Zaban e Zanan*—The Voice of the Women—by its manager, Madame Dolatabadi, who insisted on the fact that the effort made in Teheran was to be continued in the provinces. She gained her point, and a girls' school was erected in all large towns. In 1919 the first high school was opened in Teheran. The course was to last nine years: general subjects were taught, general history, mathematics, geometry, botany, astronomy, domestic science, music, etc. Such was the summary of the fight led by the women to gain their equality with men and to receive the benefits of education. It is possible to state, for one who knows the ardent conservatism of a nation and a church deeply attached to their religious customs, that a giant step was made in twenty years. It is an especially important achievement that the clergy is now convinced that the Koranic law is not opposed to woman's education. Hence, we see our young girls headed towards European schools. Great numbers of them are already seated next to their sisters from the West, where they learn to deserve the greater freedom they crave.

In fact, they have for an example Madame Dolatabadi, a woman of thirty-five and the real leader of this movement, who for two years now has been training at the College Feminin in Paris in order to intelligently attend lectures at the Sorbonne.

The movement is rapidly spreading and nothing can stop it.

But a tremendous effort must yet be made. The problem depends on the amount of money the Government is willing to allot to the budget of the Ministry of Public Instruction. All other obstacles have been overcome.

Satisfied with the first results obtained, which constitute an upheavel of the most ancient customs, Madame Dolatabadi then directed her efforts towards organizing the women, making them conscious of a common goal and co-ordinating their actions towards one and the same plan. To this second period belongs the creation of two Feminist groups. The first was started four or five years ago, when Madame Dolatabadi succeeded in grouping around herself about forty women who, putting together some funds, started three weaving workshops on a small scale, employing women only. The first one for silk at Yezd, another one for wool at Kerman, and the last for cotton at Ispahan. At the present time about seventy women belong to this group. Another society with educational tendencies was formed at Teheran by a woman who assured its success by acting as its secretary. Princess Mou, a sister of the famous former Socialist leader at the parliament, Souleiman Mirza, was elected president. This society publishes the newspaper, *The Voice of the Women,* of which we have already spoken, and conducts a school at Teheran, as well as a working room in which stockings, woolen socks, etc., are manufactured. This society consists of about 500 members. These two societies have, for the first time in Persia's history, taken a part in the International Women's movement. Both were represented at the International Congress for Women, held in Paris in June, 1926.

Persian Laws Concerning Women

DIVORCE in Persia is hard for women. If the husband wants a divorce the wife cannot prevent it, no matter how unwilling she may be; however, the man is obliged to pay her the whole of the present, which, according to Persian custom, is promised at marriage. This present is generally paid in installments, but cannot be withheld if she is divorced without her consent. A husband is able to divorce his wife in two or three days, but must then support her for three months, during which time she is not allowed to marry. If the wife wants a divorce and the husband is unwilling, she must pay back all the money he has given her and more too, if he demands it. It is easy to see that a man may marry a girl of wealthy family, treat her so badly as to make separation an imperative necessary, and thus practically compel her to bribe him heavily in order to get freedom. There is also a form of divorce which permits a man to put away his wife, while retaining his legal right to take her back again without her consent. Temporary marriage is permitted and concubinage.

The father is obliged to support the children, though if the woman wants a divorce he keeps them. Manhood suffrage prevails in Persia; no women have the right to vote. Madame Dolatabadi, in a paper that she prepared for the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, says that for a thousand years woman has permitted herself to be effaced while men have occupied the foreground, and she has lived her life far removed from all political interests.

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.
House Joint Resolution Number 81.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925, by SENATOR CHARLES E. CURTIS.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 16, 1925, by REPRESENTATIVE D. R. ANTHONY.

Germinating Justice

IN THE autumn we put bulbs in the ground, rake the rich loam over them, and rest from our labors content with the conviction that in yet a few months more our gardens will be bright with daffodils, narcissus, tulips and hyacinths. That is because we know that within the dark, hard, horny little object we have planted there is hidden a germinating core that given time and opportunity will flower each according to its kind. It is much the same sort of feeling that sustains those who are working for justice in whatever sphere of human activity. A meeting is planned, literature is written, funds assembled, speeches made, all because there is a fixed and unshakable faith in human hearts that somehow, somewhere, sometime, justice will prevail.

The pioneers in the Equal Rights movement, with the long, long winter before them, never faltered in their efforts, for they knew that even if their own hands could never gather the flowers, when the spring had come others there would be who would rejoice in their beauty. It was the vision of the future, now in part become reality, that sustained them in an apparently hopeless enterprise.

To the Feminist of today there is besides the vision of the future an immense amount of quite tangible evidence to uphold the spirit when winter comes. It is a fact that in many countries in various quarters of the globe some material gains have already been accomplished by women. These can now be actually counted in statutes, in educational opportunities, in the greater economic independence of women, which increases every day, but over and above these material assets there is a spiritual yearning of women for liberty that itself constitutes the germinating core.

In this issue of EQUAL RIGHTS the changing status of the women of one country, Persia, is set forth. We read of the efforts of the Persian women, of their accomplishments, and we are not surprised, for it is only the same story over again, the story that phrases and rephrases itself in every land. It is the old, old story of progress, of change, of the continuing victory of justice over injustice. From it we can take comfort, forget for a moment our weariness and caress our souls with Pippa's words.

Women and War

A RECENT press dispatch from London brings to light the fact that tradition that has been unwaveringly observed since the days of Nelson was broken recently to permit women to board a British warship and witness what proved to be the most formidable naval demonstration since the war. This for the purpose of enlisting the interest of colonial women in Britain's imperial aims. Of the 250 guests present, 28 were women.

We call attention to the incident not for the purpose of raising the question of the relative merits of peace and war, but because we believe that the 28 women who were invited constituted 28 separate bits of proof that the ancient argument against the emancipation of women that "women cannot fight" is obsolete.

By inviting the women to be present at the demonstration Great Britain formally acknowledged the fact that times have changed since the days of Nelson and that the active and conscious co-operation of women is now essential to war.

In this connection it is interesting to recall that at the height of the World War 11,880 women wore the navy uniform as "yeomanettes" and reserve nurses, and that the Marine Corps had 269 "marinettes" doing clerical work.

Even now it is reported that the United States Army is looking around to ascertain the possible uses for women in war time to release men from cooking, laundering and a host of clerical positions, and that the Navy is furnishing the Army with data on the value of women in war time gathered through its own experience.

All of these apparently unrelated facts give food for thought. If the active co-operation of the modern woman is essential to the successful prosecution of war, what precisely would happen if the women of the various nations should unite in an international Feminist organization? That they could fight is obvious, but what they would fight is another matter.

Very few women care to see their sons blacken one another's eyes; fewer still care to see their sons kill one another.

The world has not yet seen an international union of free women act in relation to war. When it does we predict that all the effort that has gone into the campaign for the emancipation of women will be well rewarded.

Zorah Khanoum Heidary

By Mary Winsor

"Wake! For the sun who scatter'd into flight
The stars before him from the field of night,
Drives night along with them from Heav'n, and strikes
The Sultan's turret with a shaft of light."

ZORAH KHANOUM HEIDARY, member of the Persian Commission to the Sesqui-Centennial and the first woman to be admitted to the Persian Government, stood before a group of women in my house at Haverford, depicting the life of Persian women and their awakening to the light of modern opportunity. As I studied her vivid, Oriental personality, I said with Omar Khayyam, that "Dawn's left hand is in the sky"; that—and no more. For the darkness is still great, and only a little band of devoted women are coming as torch-bearers to arouse the feminine hosts still slumbering. But when has it ever been otherwise in the woman movement, especially in the first faint glimmerings in any country?

Those who know Persia were thunderstruck when they heard that a woman had been appointed to the Sesqui Commission. It was revolutionary for a land, so ancient, so conservative, so far-removed from the highways of travel, from the currents of contemporary thought.

Madame Heidary has had experiences that lifted her out of provincialism and made a cosmopolitan of her. Married to a Russian, she spent years in Russia and in European travel, during which she cast off the "tchadouf," the heavy, smothering black veil which holds all Persian womanhood in its strangling folds, and familiarized herself with Western life and ways of thought. Bolshevism arrived and Russia became impossible. The Communists did not find her sympathetic and threw her into a prison, which she shared with Mrs. Marguerite Harrison, well known to the American lecture-going public. She was finally sent back to her native country.

WHEN Persia, under the present Shah, began to remodel its institutions and looked about for new human material, Madame Heidary, with a knowledge of the world and of foreign languages, was an asset. She was given a post in the Department of Public Works as secretary to the Minister. When she was offered the position of member of the Sesqui Committee, though many difficulties stood in the way, she accepted it, in the hopes of meeting American women and interesting them in the economic development of Persian women. For in Persia, as everywhere else, the financial standing of women leaves much, much to be desired; the chances of making a livelihood are far more scanty for them than for men, who hold practically all paying positions; leaving only school teaching, wifehood, and concubinage. Very much the same situation that our early Feminists stormed against and set themselves to combat.

MADAME HEIDARY is a Feminist to the core, and her dearest wish is to collect a little fund with which to finance some workshops for Persian women in which the old Persian industries are being revived, and adapted to modern Western needs, thus putting money in the hands of women and giving them the equaity that counts and to which all other forms of equality are but ancillary. "Put money in thy purse!" said Iago. "That is what I ask for woman," said Susan B. Anthony; "A purse of her own, into which she may dip at her pleasure."

Madame Heidary is a friend and colleague of Madame Dolatabadi and paid a fine tribute to her as the pioneer Feminist of Persia.

So in the welter and confused injustice of this man-made and man-distorted world there are now two women, who in far-distant Iran, will with us

"* * * conspire
To grasp this sorry scheme of things entire.
Will we not shatter it to bits—and then
Remould it nearer to the heart's desire!"

Development of Headquarters Continues

IMPORTANT contributions to the complete restoration of the historic buildings which are the National Headquarters of the National Woman's Party have just been made.

A bedroom on the second floor of the middle house, looking out over the garden, has been redecorated by Mrs. Max Levy of Louisiana as the Louisiana Room. Mrs. Levy recently visited Headquarters, and personally inspected the Louisiana Room.

Mrs. Levy is a prominent worker in fraternal organizations as well as in the National Woman's Party's campaign for Equal Rights between men and women. She is a life member of the National Woman's Party, and is legislative chairman of the Louisiana Branch.

Mrs. Isaac Dixon of Maryland, chairman of the Farmers' Council of the National Woman's Party, is furnishing the apartment at the rear of the writing room in the middle house. This apartment consists of two bedrooms, a bath, and a dressing room. Mrs. Dixon has already installed the bathroom and restored the fireplace, and is now preparing the apartment for occupancy.

Mrs. Dixon is a life member of the National Woman's Party, and was one of the delegates to the Paris Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. She has been a Feminist from her girlhood. Mrs. Dixon is a Quaker, and was educated at Swarthmore College. She was brought up on a farm, and manages her own farm. She is now uniting farm women into a Farmers' Council of the National Woman's Party for the purpose of liberating farm women from the hardships and the economic subordination that is so predominantly their lot.

IZETTA JEWEL BROWN of West Virginia is furnishing the room on the third floor of No. 21, directly behind the Michigan Room, in memory of her mother, Jewel Kenney, one of the leaders in the early Feminist movement in the United States. Mrs. Brown has placed in this room beautiful furniture which has been in her family for generations. A four-poster bed, a beautiful desk, a bureau, a clock, and rug, all of lovely design, have already been placed in the room. Dotted Swiss curtains, in keeping with the furnishings of the room, hang at the windows and form a canopy for the four-poster bed.

Following the death of Mrs. Kenney in 1924, the National Council of the National Woman's Party adopted a resolution in her memory which read, in part, as follows:

"Mrs. Kenney was one of those courageous women who braved public ridicule in defense of suffrage in the early days of the suffrage struggle. During the long, wearying fight for suffrage, she was at all times a loyal supporter of the suffrage movement. Her quiet, calm faith was ever an inspiration to her fellow-workers.

"Mrs. Kenney early allied herself with the Woman's Party after its formation to work for the Federal Suffrage Amendment. And after the suffrage victory, she was again among the first to give her support to the new work of the Woman's Party, to remove the remaining discriminations against women.

"In the death of Mrs. Kenney the members of the Women's Party feel

a deep personal loss as well as the loss of a most valued worker."

Hazel Godwin, another able worker for Equal Rights, is also the daughter of Mrs. Kenney.

Mollie Roberts Nicholls of the District of Columbia has presented a beautiful old quilt made by her grandmother in Missouri many years ago. This quilt is an exceptional example of the early craftsmanship of the pioneer American women, and is a real contribution to the early American furnishings of the National Woman's Party Headquarters.

Joan Grayson has been assisting in the redecoration of seven Headquarters bedrooms with cretonne window curtains and bedspreads.

Carrie Harrison recently gave the following plants for the garden: Lysinachia numrueclarie, or moneywort; aupelopsis bi-color; mint; some honeysuckle from Middle China, given to Miss Harrison from Director Arnold's arboretum. This honeysuckle, known as lonivera landii, has a translucent red berry. Miss Harrison also brought sprays of pyroacantha cocinea from her bush which came from the Biltmore estate in North Carolina. The bush was imported from England by Mr. Vanderbilt.

Previously Miss Harrison sent some Darwin tulip bulbs, which will bloom next summer, along with those which were awarded the National Woman's Party as the first prize for rare flowers at the show of the American Horticultural Society in Washington.

Jane Welsh Carlyle, Letter Writer

A Review by Sue S. White

THREE sets of Jane Welsh Carlyle's letters have been published, the last one being "Letters to Her Family"—that is, to Jeannie and Helen Welsh, cousins, and their father, beloved "Uncle" John Welsh. They were written between 1839 and 1852, with one exception, dated 1863. They are edited by Leonard Huxley, LL.D., and were brought out by Doubleday, Page and Company in 1924. But they will never grow old. The woman lives in them—in an intimacy of family confidences and friendship, and she makes others live as well. One sympathizes with her in her almost constant illness, in what she calls her "housewifery," in her "endurances" of her "lot of man-of-Genius's-wife," in her benevolences, her friendships and loves—and one laughs with her on every page. Yes, one laughs with her who says herself: "And laughing, that is to say, *honestly laughing* with anyone, is for me what *taking salt* with anyone is among savages." These letters hold not only the salt of humor, but much spice, and a sweetness that is all the sweeter, perhaps, from the tinge of bitterness that runs along with it.

In one of her early letters to Jeannie she writes: "I am not sure, dear Babbie, that consistently with my duties to 'humanity,' to my numerous friends and admirers to my own household (such at it is), and above all to my own *me,* little spirit of unrest which, that it may not fly into all shivers, needs to cultivate in itself above all things the great holding-together cement of *stupidity!* — am not sure that consistently with these manifold duties, I can *go on* writing to you *at the present rate.*"

Her cultivation of stupidity was eminently unsuccessful, and one who today reads her letters to "Babbie" is thankful that she went on writing. One even joins with her in her wish: "Oh, if I might write my own biography from beginning to end—without reservation or false coloring—it would be an invaluable document for my countrywomen in more than one particular, but *'decency forbids'.*"

There isn't a doubt that her biography would be invaluable. As it is, these letters go far toward revealing the "little spirit of unrest." For instance, she throws out this suggestion for Babbie to make to a wealthy kinswoman: "I wish you would suggest to her, to found a little female La Trappe, to which people of an earnest turn of mind might retire from time to time, to consider *what they want!* To attain to some glimmer of an idea as to *that,* would be an immense step gained for the female mind in these days—and an impossible one amidst the deluge of idle babblement, and pressure of the most unlily-of-the-field-like small cares in which the most of us spend our lives—God help us poor women!— especially such of us as have not our daily bread to work for—and small children to bring up, better or worse!"

THE editor says in his introduction that the letters descended to "Babbie's" only daughter as purely family letters. They are that, surely, and the reader almost feels, at first, that "decency forbids" this looking behind the scenes into the heart of the writer, until she settles the question herself by this reference to Harriet Martineau: "She is demanding throughout the whole circle of her correspondence which is almost as wide as the world—that there should be a general thorough conflagration of her letters—in fear of their publication at her death—and this she calls—not what it really is, a diseased anxiety about her future *biography,* but 'her protest against the laxity of society in the matter of letters.' 'She feels it her *duty* (varnish!) to set this example,' etc., etc. I felt it *my* duty (without varnish) to tell her that I considered the whole uproar *'unworthy* of her'—to tell her a great many very sensible things, which have been entirely thrown away—'she perceives that I think her a little *mad*—morally,' but the only inference she has drawn from that is that *I* must be a little mad—morally—and so she goes on exciting this letter-conflagration as if it were 'the burning up of all the sins of the world.'"

SHE practiced a spirited and independent loyalty to women, as is shown throughout the letters, especially in rushing to one whose husband had dragged her into court for addressing one of her male friends as "my dear." Mrs. Carlyle writes: "Tomorrow I go to her after breakfast to stay all day and Carlyle, God bless him, will come to fetch me home. So soon as she is able I will fetch her here for a few days and if anybody thinks it 'an improper connection,' they are at liberty to cut my acquaintance. I really see no such natural way of showing my gratitude to Providence for having had my own reputation always mercifully preserved, as in affording the countenance of it to one who has been less fortunate."

In enumerating a few of the things which had kept her from writing Babbie, such as engaging house-maids for friends, corresponding about theatrical engagements for a protegée, mending Carlyle's shirts, and conselling Mazzini with his Italian revolution, she adds: "And with all this and much more, too long to tell, you are to take along with you that two days ago his wisdom 'kicked up a rumpus' —thereby flurrying me out of two nights' sleep. This time it was not for my *in*humanity, as in the case of 'poor Craik,' but for my 'George-Sandish excess of humanity' *a propos* of poor Mrs. R.! My doctrine on that whole matter, he would have me to know, was infamous * * *."

She seemed to be amused by Carlyle at times, for instance: "C.'s hair is creeping slowly over the tops of his ears, but that is all the way it has got. Meanwhile the *cotton* is still used for one *ear*—in which, however, it never stays long, but is generally to be seen (not without astonishment by the unitiated) sticking, a small white pellet, at the end of some stray hair—for all the world like a snowberry!"

Here is a parenthetical suggestion of Feminism: "C * * * has, in fact, taken up of late such a spirit of persecution (for I can call it nothing less) against everything connected in the remotest degree with 'young Italy' that I foresaw an amount of ill-humor on account of my lending my countenance (that is to say,

his wife's countenance) to 'a nest of young conspirators' * * *."

And in this there is conjugal consideration: "I received yesterday a bundle of manuscript from Geraldine and Mrs. Paulet—of which I am to give my opinion—partly from a sort of vague apprehension, partly for another reason I have not yet untied the parcel—this other reason is, that Carlyle has also a considerable bundle of MS. * * * which he 'rather wishes me to read and give him my views about' — and until I have *studied* that, which will be no light matter, I must abstain, for *decency's sake* from showing any curiosity about the other literary production in which I have only a *friend's* interest. My Dear, though we are not trained here as in China, to 'the three thousand punctualities'—we are always needing to look to our doings that we may not stumble over some nicety or other."

THEN comes a deluge of "housewifery" while Cromwell was being written, among which this bit is to be found: "Oh, the lamp—it is still in action—has never failed to do *its* part for a single minute—but it is ordered to be 'flung out of his way' so soon as the present stock of oil is burnt out—'it makes an atmosphere that no mortal can breath in,' as I am a living woman I have never been able to detect the impurity, but no matter about that, it must go. Much else will have to go before Cromwell is finished—perhaps the animate as well as the inanimate."

She writes a great deal about insomnia, headaches, biliousness, and blue pills, but: "All the while, I have to do the amiable to company as usual, and take all the principal *bores* off Carlyle and go about indoors as if nothing ailed me—for as Carlyle has long since appropriated the chief right to raise an outcry—and put all his miseries into poetic language, and as possession is nine points of law, it were vain for *me* to take the field as a complainer, even if such relief were to be found in that line, which I don't believe to be the case."

Later she writes: "But I have not got well yet, and do not feel as if I should ever get well enough to relish my existence of Lion's wife—especially as long as the Lion's self will not take *his* part on his own shoulders but rolls over that also on mine. Decidedly I begin to be weary of *doing* all the *bores*—while if ever perchance an exceptional human being drops in *that one* is carried off to smoke in the garden or talk *tête à tête* in the library!"

Is there not some humor in this reference to Lady Harriet Baring, Carlyle's "new female friend": "What *she* thought of *me,* I should rather like to know—she took prodigious looks at me from time to time. In the last note to Carlyle inviting him to Addiscombe for next Sunday she says—'I meditate paying my respects to Mrs. Carlyle—so soon as I am again making visits—she is a *reality* whom you have hitherto *quite suppressed.*'"

A young man who went mad wrote her he had found "happiness." She wrote Babbie: "I congratulated him on having arrived at 'happiness' by whatsoever inconceivable means, but wished he would name that word as little as possible—'for I always heard it with a superstitious shudder—happiness if there was such a thing at all seeming to me of the nature of those delicate spirits which vanish when one pronounces their name.'"

In another letter she says: "I am better than happy in having learned to do without happiness." On the occasion of the death of a young friend she speaks of the survival of those who live longer, "one after another of all one's beautiful illusions and even most reasonable hopes, surviving in short one's original self." Had not Jane Carlyle survived the "original self" of Jane Welsh?

She writes of a visit from Tennyson: "Alfred is dreadfully embarrassed with women alone—for he entertains at one and same moment a feeling of almost adoration for them and an ineffable contempt—adoration I suppose for what they might be, contempt for what they are. The only chance of my getting any right good of him was to make him forget my womanness—so I did just as Carlyle would have done, had he been there, got out pipes and tobacco, and brandy and water, with a deluge of tea over and above. The effect of these accessories was miraculous, he professed to be ashamed of polluting my room, 'felt,' he said, 'as if he were stealing cups and sacred vessels in the Temple'—but he smoked on all the same for three hours, talking like an angel; only exactly as if he were talking with a clever *man,* which being a thing I am not used to, men always adapting their conversation to what they *take* to be a woman's taste, strained me to a terrible pitch of intellectuality."

SHE refers to a threatened marriage of a friend as the contemplation of "a lawful catastrophe," and again writes that one whose husband drank himself to death "this morning was maintaining against me the beauty and holiness of marriage even in these days!"

"I used to think these Leweses," she wrote, "a perfect pair of love-birds always cuddling together on the same perch to speak figuratively, but the female love-bird appears to have hopped off to some distance and to be now taking a somewhat critical view of her little shaggy mate! In the most honey-marriages one has only to *wait*—it is all a question of time—sooner or later 'reason resumes its empire' as the phrase goes."

Finally there comes this: "Oh Babbie, how I wish it had not been your idea to pitch your tent in this 'valley of shadow of *marriage*'—it is a very relaxing air I am sure and peculiarly unsuitable to your constitution. But certainly I am not the best authorized person to tell people how they should manage their lives under that head of method, having made such a mess of my own life—God help me!"

LIFE can hardly be entirely "a mess" to one with the sense of humor these letters show. She did spoil Carlyle and permitted his "genius" to rule her life and demoralize her household. That was his prerogative as a man of genius which she left unquestioned, but there was always the protest within her, turned as it was to a fine amusement with his ways which sometimes almost reached the point of sarcasm. She said of him: "I have not only his habit of preference for me over all other women (and *habits* are much stronger in him than *passions*), but also his indifference to *all* women *as women* * * *." Housewifery bored her, and she went from one "earthquake" of dismantling to another, according to the whim of her genius husband, who was probably as kind and considerate as husbands were in those days. Perhaps if she had not been ill, she would been happier, and perhaps if she had been happier she would not have been ill. Carlyle was ill, most of the time, too, and absorbed in himself and in his writing, but in spite of this illness of both of them, these letters sparkle on every page. The quotations I have given have been chosen primarily in order to interest the Feminist readers of EQUAL RIGHTS. There is more Feminism *between* the lines than *in* the lines of Jane Welsh's letters, but it is there nevertheless.

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English Women Inventors

MORE women than ever are trying their hands at inventing in England. During 1925 there were 608 applications for patents from women inventors against 493 in 1924. The total number of applications for 1925 was 33,003.

Women will compete with men for the Grey-Wilson Memorial Gold Medal which is being offered this year by the Institute of Patentees for the best invention at the Exhibition to be held at the Central Hall early in October. Already a number of inventions have been received from women. With the exception of an amusement device designed by a Brighton woman, most of the women's inventions range on the domestic and labour-saving side. One woman inventor has come all the way from Canada to exhibit an electrical cooking attachment. This useful device can be attached to an ordinary small heating radiator or fan and used for cooking or boiling a kettle, the heating capacity of the radiator thus being made to serve two purposes. A woman cyclist has submitted an ingenious idea which, when put into effect, enables a bicycle to be pushed up a hill with the minimum of effort. A safety roundabout for children is the invention of a seaside landlady. Another woman has invented unbreakable toilet sets of coloured rubber, whilst a woman engineer has produced a device for improving the joints of scissors. A removable lining for a traveling coat which can be inflated to form a cushion is an ingenious idea of another woman. "Unhookable" curtain hooks and a net for wearing round a hat to prevent mosquito bites, or for use when attending to bees, are the inventions of two women of title.

Inventions from women of all nationalities are annually received by the Institute of patentees, and so many women submit inventions that the Institute now offers a prize for the best invention by a woman. Last year it was divided between a woman who invented a detachable umbrella cover, and one who had designed an exceedingly useful combination of a writing desk and work table.

News From The Field

THE Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party started their Tuesday afternoon teas for the season on October 12, with Mrs. William Bauernschmidt of the Public School Association as speaker and Mrs. Blanche Bubert as hostess. The following Tuesday, George W. Crabbe of the Anti-Saloon League made a forciful talk, tea being served by Mrs. Florence Day. Education was discussed by Mr. E. H. Norman of the Baltimore Business College on Tuesday, October 26. Mrs. Minnie Rhine was hostess.

On Thursday, November 4, a luncheon was given at the Southern Hotel, with Mary Winsor as the guest of honor. Miss Winsor made an address in her usual interesting and happy fashion on "A Glimpse of the Far East."

Mrs. Townsend Scott and Mrs. Robert Walker, both of Baltimore, brought echoes of the Paris Conference before the largely attended luncheon.

THE citizens of Catonsville, Maryland, have erected a memorial to Ethel Harrison Crosby as a tribute to her pioneer work in public health in that community.

The memorial is a beautifully constructed building to be known as the Catonsville Health Center. It contains the visiting nurses' office, a classroom and a waiting-room, and will be the headquarters of the First District Public Health Association of Baltimore County.

This is the first memorial of its kind to be erected in Maryland in recognition of a woman's public service.

GAIL LAUGHLIN, newly elected member of the Maine Legislature, and member of the National Council of the Woman's Party, and Rebecca Hourwich, organizer of the National Woman's Party, will be guests of honor at a drawing-room meeting at the home of Mrs. Florence B. Whitehouse, chairman of the Maine State Branch of the National Woman's Party, in Portland, Maine, on November 10.

The election of Miss Laughlin to the Maine Legislature and her plans to introduce and work for the passage of bills to equalize the status of men and women, has given a new stimulus to the activities of the Maine Branch. Plans are being made for a thorough organization of each Congressional district under the guidance of Mrs. Whitehouse and Miss Hourwich.

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EDITH AINGE, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL: *C. P. A., Auditor.*

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters December 7, 1912, to October 22, 1926, $1,371,501.93.

Contributions, membership and other receipts October 22, 1926, to November 5, 1926:

Mrs. Louise A. Cavell, Cal.	$1.00
Mrs. Julia Barnard, Cal.	1.90
Miss Ruby Black, D. C.	10.00
Per Delaware Branch: (Delaware Branch retaining one-half)	
Mrs. M. E. Macchus	.50
Mrs. Marguerite Hopkins	.50
Mrs. Blanche Stubbs	.50
Mrs. Emma G. Sykes	.50
Mrs. B. C. Loeb, S. C.	100.00
Madame Henri Conscience, France	1.00
Madame Alice LaMaziere, France	1.00
Mr. Adolph Lewisohn, N. Y.	25.00
Miss Vyvyan Donner, N. Y.	10.04
Women's Equal Opportunity League, N. Y.	15.00
Mrs. H. S. Skeffington, Ireland	1.00
Mrs. Lucy Branham, N. Y.	1.00
Per New York City Committee: (New York City retaining one-half)	
Mrs. C. Boles	.50
Mrs. Bailey	.50
Mrs. A. Bowers	.50
Miss Bella Balsinos	.50
Mrs. Kane	.50
Mrs. G. McGovern	.50
Mrs. R. Bauer	.50
Mrs. S. Phillips	.50
Mrs. A. Steller	.50
Mrs. Scott	.50
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, N. Y.	150.00
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	506.00
Dividend on endowment stock	6.00
Sale of leaflets "1913-1926"	.25
Sale of general literature	.36
Sale of "Jailed for Freedom"	2.00
Payment for electricity	1.00
Payment for coal	.30
Payment for laundry	.54
Total receipts, October 22 to November 5, 1926	$893.49
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to November 5, 1926	$1,372,341.42

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